

App'l. No. 10/691,126
Am'dt. dated June 20, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 20, 2006

Atty. Ref. 81754.0100
Customer No. 26021

Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claim Status

Claims 1-3, 5-15 and 20 are pending. Claim 11 is amended.

Allowed Claims

The allowance of claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-15 and 20 is noted and appreciated.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 112

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. In particular, the Action asserts that "second coded information" should have been introduced earlier in the claim. In response, claim 11 is amended to recite:

...coding the manufacturing number information and
inspected result information regarding the product into
second coded information;

decoding the second coded information...

Thus, the second coded information is now defined earlier in the claim as comprising manufacturing number information and inspected result information.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102(e)

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Mizuno (US 6,442,830). In response, applicant traverses the rejection and draws the Examiner's attention to the following limitation which is present in claim 11:

...predictively calculating product shortage number based
on a comparison between a yield rate from the inspected
result information and a prearranged yield rate.

This feature is not disclosed By Mizuno. Moreover, applicant notes that the Action, in applying Mizuno to claim 11, omits any discussion of this feature and does not provide any indication as to where the feature is found in Mizuno. Finally, applicant notes that the previous addition of this feature to claim 8 resulted in the

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allowance of claim 8. Since Mizuno does not disclose each and every element of claim 11, it cannot anticipate claim 11. The rejection under 35 USC 102(e) should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

This application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned to discuss any issues remaining after entry of this amendment. Any fees due with this response may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
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